

## HISTORICAL COLUMN

selected by R.G. Thomson

### Veterinarians of the North-West Territories and Alberta

B.I. LOVE

Footnotes by C.G. Bigland

#### CHAPTER TWO

##### GREAT VETERINARIANS

Very early in this story we would like to establish the importance of the veterinarians who travelled to what is now Alberta, seventy or more years ago and laid the foundations here, for what has become a profession of integrity and prestige.

These men came west for different reasons. Some to help organize the huge cattle ranches of that day; some to practise veterinary medicine now that settlers were arriving; some for pure adventure; some with the newly recruited Royal North West Mounted Police detachments. It could be said with truth during these early years of the R.N.W.M.P. the force could not have functioned well without the services of the veterinarians who had joined their ranks.

The late Dr. P. R. Talbot was a good teller of stories and left for us a record of five of these men. In the telling of their stories he uncovered much of his own fine character. As you read you will understand why we have chosen to use these stories as Dr. Talbot wrote them. His was first hand knowledge, which vouches for the authenticity, and his ability to recount incidents that occurred gives color to what might have become 'just happenings' in a profession which actually never lacks color, although some might think us guilty of slight exaggeration—at times!

From the pen of Dr. P. R. Talbot . . . .

##### Dr. Duncan McEachran

Of all the veterinarians who lived and operated in what is now Alberta, I believe the history of Dr. Duncan McEachran is possibly one of the most interesting. It is notable that he came into the country with the first of the Cattle Barons who were establishing themselves in the vicinity of Fort MacLeod.

It was through his efforts that the great Walrond Ranch was established. He was largely responsible for the importation of numerous sires of the beef breeds as well as stallions, both draft and thoroughbred. He detected the first cases of mange in southern Alberta. He diagnosed the first case of glanders in the province. He also inaugurated our first system of animal disease control by quarantine methods. He diagnosed and endeavoured to combat the first outbreaks of blackleg in southern Alberta. We must remember that Dr. McEachran came here at a time when our population consisted almost entirely of Indians, bootleggers, gunmen, gamblers, cowboys and a few ranchers as well as the law-enforcing North West Mounted Police. We should remember also that cattlemen at that time especially, were antagonistic to direction and restrictions pertaining to the livestock industry. They were mostly men who came here from Montana to establish themselves in a new coun-

try and recognized no law but their own. We also had a few big companies financed by British capital that were prepared at all costs to keep that particular area free for big cattle business. One can understand how Dr. McEachran, well educated, a professional man, with rather a forbidding personality and representing perhaps one of the most powerful English cattle companies of that day, would find life in Alberta full of adventure, strife and ungratefulness.

Dr. McEachran was born in Scotland and graduated from the Edinburgh Veterinary College. I am unable to say when he arrived in Canada, but his association with the cattle industry in this province appears prior to 1880. In this year the Cochrane Ranch Company, The I. G. Baker Company and Dr. McEachran together, arranged for the purchase of seven thousand head of cattle from Montana. This was really the start of the big herds in Alberta and the extensive operations that were to follow.

In the year 1881, the Walrond Ranch, better known as the "W.R." in recognition of its brand, was formed by Dr. McEachran and financed by British capital, Sir John Walrond, a man of good reputation and considerable wealth, being president. The range of the Walrond Ranch was on the North fork of the Old Man River between the Porcupine Hills and the Livingstone Range.

Dr. McEachran was fortunate in obtaining the services of James Patterson, an experienced cowhand from Montana as his foreman. Much of the success of the Walrond Ranch was due to the Patterson Management.

In the 1880's Dr. McEachran was appointed Chief Government Veterinary Surgeon. Almost immediately after this the ranchers of southern Alberta, encouraged by editorials in the MacLeod Gazette, became most abusive toward him and to his methods regarding the handling of mange. The manner of controlling this disease was a contentious question for years and it is doubtful if anyone could have pleased all the cattlemen.

Dr. McEachran was really responsible for drawing me (Dr. Talbot) into the Health of Animals' Branch. I believe now that I received certain privileges as a result of his influence which I did not especially deserve. If I did get a few special favors it was due to the fact that he considered me a Fort MacLeod boy.

I have heard Dr. McEachran say that it was doubtful if he could have survived the difficulties encountered with the tough cowmen of that day but for an incident that happened in the year 1886.

The Cochrane Ranch Company, after two disastrous years, moved their herds from the Calgary district to an area

around Waterton Lakes. A sudden snow storm occurred that resulted in all the grass being covered to a depth of several feet. Thousands of cattle were faced with starvation. All efforts to get them out or bring feed to them proved futile and the situation appeared to be hopeless. If the cattle could have reached the Peigan Reserve or the Porcupine Hills where there was no snow and plenty of grass the animals could have been saved.

Although the Cochrane Ranch Company and the Walrond Ranch were bitter rivals, Dr. McEachran secured the services of a cowboy by the name of Frank Strong who rounded up five hundred head of cayuses from the nearby Reserve and with the help of several experienced hands forced the horses through the drifts until the cattle were reached. When this was accomplished Strong turned the horses for home. Right behind them came the cattle, never stopping until they reached the open prairie and grass in unlimited quantities. Thousands of the Cochrane cattle were saved by this manoeuvre and even Dr. McEachran's worst enemies up to that time became less critical of him.\*

It was said that Dr. McEachran gave Strong one thousand dollars (a lot of money in those days) for bringing the cattle out safely and when the bill was presented to the manager of the Cochrane Ranch it was paid most cheerfully. Wm. F. Cochrane, owner and manager of the company and Dr. McEachran became and remained the best of friends.

When Dr. McEachran took over the handling of the Animal Contagious Diseases for Canada the livestock industry appeared to have suffered a serious setback, for there was no one in this part of the country to take his place. He was instrumental, however, in placing veterinarians in the area who were outstanding in the profession.

His enthusiasm for southern Alberta continued throughout his life and he was particularly indignant when it was suggested that our cattle were suffering from pleuropneumonia by British authorities. He spoke at public meetings in England and Canada on this subject. It was largely through his ability as a speaker and his high qualifications as a veterinarian that no further reflections were cast on the health of Canadian cattle.

Dr. Duncan McNab McEachran died October 13th, 1924, at Ormsby Grange, Ormstown, Quebec, as a result of an attack of angina pectoris. He was in his 83rd year, and had been in poor health for about two years. Dr. McEachran was elected to honorary membership in the A.V.M.A. in 1878 and was the oldest member on the honorary roll at the time of his death.

Dr. McEachran was the last of the pioneer veterinary educators in America, his name usually being associated with such men as Alexander Liautard, Andrew Smith, James Law and Henry J. Detmars. Although Dr. McEachran had not been engaged in active educational or control work for over twenty years, both Canada and the United States have profited greatly from the valuable services rendered, in his pioneer work in Canada, in connection with veterinary education and sanitary control work.

Through the death of Dr. McEachran, the profession suffered the irreparable loss of a member whose efficient work was performed at a time when science and the country most urgently needed the help of men of wide vision and ability.

#### **Dr. Robert Riddell**

Robert Riddell was born on a farm not far from the city of Toronto. His brother who had studied law at Toronto University later became Chief Justice Riddell for the Province of Ontario was, through his influence, partly responsible for Robert's entering the Ontario Veterinary College. His enrolment at college was a success from the

start. He was a brilliant student and as a boxer he brought distinction to the college and himself. He easily defeated each opponent in the ring who came from other faculties of the university. Several of his most prized possessions were letters received from Dr. Andrew Smith, Principal of the college as well as letters from other faculty members who congratulated him upon his ability as a boxer.

After his graduation in 1884 he joined the North West Mounted Police. This was the year of the Riel Rebellion so he was rushed to Winnipeg and from there overland to the Calgary detachment for service. He was the first qualified veterinarian in Calgary.

When Dr. Riddell's time was up with the Police at the end of his three years he moved into private practice, building an office and hospital on 9th Avenue between 1st and 2nd Streets, immediately west of the Alexandria Hotel.

Being a bachelor he kept a room at the back of his office for sleeping quarters and had a woman come in each morning to dust and clean the entire building. He was the cleanest man I ever met and the most particular about his personal appearance. He insisted on his instruments and other equipment being scrupulously clean. His horse and buggy was the best in town.

I want to describe his sleeping quarters which were strictly private for only a few intimate friends and his charwoman got past the door. The walls were decorated with rifles, revolvers, bayonets, belts, spurs and other Mounted Police equipment. There were only two pictures in the room, one of his mother, the other of an Indian squaw. The story of the last mentioned is most interesting.

In 1871 a young man by the name of Fred Kanouse came into Calgary to establish a trading post, bringing with him three halfbreeds and an Indian squaw. They built a log fort on the Elbow River about three miles up from where it joins the Bow. Shortly after the fort was erected it was raided by the Blood Indians. For three days the men fought off the invaders, the squaw, creeping from one side of the building to the other, loading rifles. They were finally rescued by some traders from High River. The following year, the same squaw who was known as "Old Sun's Wife" was captured by a band of Indians from Montana who swooped down on the fort while the men were away. One Indian swung the squaw up behind him on his horse and headed south. At the first opportunity she drew the Indian's scalping knife from his belt and stabbed him to death making her escape back to the fort. Indians, Hudson's Bay men and Mounted Police alike considered her an exceptionally fine and brave woman. Some years later she was to die on the Blackfoot Indian Reserve at Gleichen.

She drew the interest of many people and a young Hudson's Bay clerk did a picture of her giving it to Dr. Riddell. His remarks about her were that she was the bravest woman he ever knew.

Dr. Riddell was very polite and almost shy where women were concerned. When one came into his office he would leap to his feet and stand at attention until she left or took a seat.

I remember being in his office when a small dark, rather insignificant woman came in. Dr. Riddell leaped to his feet as usual. She said she was a stranger in Calgary and had just arrived from England. Suddenly she looked up where he towered six feet two inches and said "well, you seem to be every thing the Commissioner at Ottawa said you were."

She walked over to his desk, drew out a cheque book, filled one out and handed it to him saying, "I want you to buy a carload of hackney three year old colts from Rawlin-

\*Details of this drive are written in the Archives of the Glenbow Foundation in Calgary.

son Brothers, lead them here, secure a good man to look after them and ship them to Liverpool."

He looked at the cheque and nearly fainted.

She asked, "Is that enough?"

"It should be," he replied.

She said, "If you want more, cable me. I'm going home."

This woman was Lady Erskine Hunt. Dr. Riddell bought the horses and shipped them to the Old Country where they turned out very well.

When the Boer War broke out in 1899 Dr. Riddell enlisted as a Veterinary Lieutenant and went directly to South Africa riding to the relief of Ladysmith with his cavalry regiment. At the termination of hostilities, he returned to general practice in Calgary.

It is to be wondered that a veterinary practitioner could make a living during the early days in this part of Western Canada. However he was fortunate enough to receive some remuneration from the Mounted Police in and around the Calgary detachment; was also employed at times by the Department of Indian Affairs and the Dominion Department of Agriculture. As time went on it was the ranchers both west and south of Calgary who became his best clients.

Just after the Boer War, he was largely responsible in solving one of the big brand cases that caused quite a sensation at that time. The Oxley Ranch had been losing a number of cattle to rustlers. The Oxley brand being a quarter circle the rustlers could carry the quarter circle to a complete circle and add a tail, making a perfect "Q". The deception was so well done it had the best cattlemen fooled for a time. The results of experiments carried out on hides by Dr. Riddell made it possible for the police to investigate certain suspicious characters. However the guilty parties were able to slip into Montana and were never arrested.

I was fortunate in being able to serve my apprenticeship under Dr. Riddell and to be closely associated with him while I was with the Health of Animals Branch. He was a great reader, a good operator and an excellent diagnostician and the experience I gained with him and under his direction was of the greatest benefit. It was through my contact with him that I had the opportunity and good fortune to meet and get to know the best veterinarians in Western Canada.\*

I believe Calgary has the distinction of having had the three greatest men in their respective professions in the early days of the west. I refer to Dr. H. G. MacKie an early medical practitioner, Mr. Paddy Nolan a famous lawyer of his day and Dr. Robert Riddell, Veterinarian. These men were close friends and had a great deal to do with the shaping of the Calgary we know today.

Dr. Riddell retired to Nanaimo, British Columbia, in 1914 and died there a few years later.

#### Dr. John Burnett

Dr. John Farquhar Burnett joined the North West Mounted Police in 1886. From the information I have, it would appear that following graduation from the Ontario Veterinary College he started to practice at Watford, Ontario, but shortly afterward came to the North West to take charge of a stock ranch in southern Alberta. There is no record that I am able to find where he became directly connected with any of our big ranches of that day. There is a possibility that he intended to join the staff of the

Quorn Ranch for he appeared to have a particular interest in the activities of that great ranching company.

We find that when Dr. Burnett arrived in Southern Alberta on May 21st, 1886, at the age of twenty-seven, he engaged as a constable (Reg. No. 1770) in the North West Mounted Police for a period of five years service. He rose quickly to Veterinary Staff Sergeant and later was promoted to Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, then on January the first, 1888, Veterinary Surgeon. On July the first 1890, he attained the rank of Inspector and in 1913 he was receiving the pay and allowance of a Superintendent.

As horses were mainly used for transportation during the early days of the Mounted Police, Dr. Burnett became largely responsible for building up the type of police horse which was to be considered the best for the purpose of any in the world.

Several ranchers (especially those controlled by British capital) endeavored to raise horses suitable for police use. They were given credit for importing a number of thoroughbred stallions from Great Britain, Eagles Plume, Acrostic, Preston Grange, to mention one or two, to cross with our native mares. However for a number of years such breeding was not successful.

Dr. Burnett persuaded a few of the ranchers to try crossing the cayuse mares with a stock horse type of stallion. The offspring of this cross was then bred to a certain type of thoroughbred stallion. This combination of breeding proved to be most satisfactory for Dr. Burnett's purpose. It was but a year or two until he discovered the imported stallion, 'Eagles Plume', owned by the Quorn Ranch, was producing the best type of horse for police work. In the later years of horse transportation there were few animals in the force that did not come from Eagles Plume blood lines.

There must have been some connection between Dr. Burnett and the Quorn Ranch owners for they were wealthy Market Harboro, Leicestershire men whose intention was to raise hunters for the Old Country market, but apparently at Dr. Burnett's suggestion this policy was changed and they raised the police horse rather than the heavy hunter type.

The Quorn Ranch was one of the few companies that made money from raising horses that had to come up to this particular standard of breeding. Dr. Burnett's advice and guidance was certainly responsible to a great extent for the success of the breeding program. How he persuaded a company as wealthy and powerful as the Quorn to change their policies, I do not know, but they followed his instructions that horses being raised for the police were not to be stabled, but allowed to run in open pens and he was to select the men who were to break the horses for police use. He did not tolerate the old time broncho buster. The result of this did not increase his popularity with a certain class of horsemen, but it did help change the methods of horse breaking of that day.

Some records state that Inspector Burnett was the first veterinarian to report the presence of dourine in horses in Southern Alberta and reports also show he did considerable work in connection with stamping out several outbreaks of glanders in different parts of the North West Territories. He was an excellent witness in court cases and was frequently called to give evidence in connection with infractions of The Animal Contagious Diseases Act.

Because of his position as Inspector and Veterinary Officer of the North West Mounted Police he was able to raise the status of the veterinarian in western Canada; he expected and received the respect that left no doubt he was a Veterinarian and proud of it!

\*Dr. Talbot's stories of Dr. Robert Riddell of Calgary, Dr. John Burnett of the North West Mounted Police, of Dr. David Warnock and of Dr. Charles Sweetapple in essence have been confirmed in my reading in preparation for the History of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

I was associated with Dr. Burnett on several occasions when inspecting horses during the First World War. He was one of the most capable men I ever worked with. People said they never got to know him and this is understandable for he was quiet and reserved. Men who were under him in the Police Force said he was a strict disciplinarian but was always just in matters pertaining to regulations.

Dr. Burnett served at Calgary, MacLeod, Regina and Lethbridge, retiring in 1922, holding the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Long Service Medal.

Following his retirement he lived for a time in Victoria, British Columbia, but later moved to California, U.S.A. He died on September 29th, 1940, at the age of eighty-two.

#### **Dr. David Warnock**

David Warnock was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, and was educated at the Hamilton Academy and the West of Scotland Technical College. On graduating with the degree of M.R.C.V.S. in 1889 he came to Canada, proceeding directly to that part of the North West Territories which is now Alberta.

His first position was with the High River Horse Ranch as veterinarian and assistant manager. He stayed there until 1893 when he followed Dr. McEachran as Manager of the Walrond Ranch at a time when the interests of the Canadian and United States Governments and the cattlemen were quite strained. He told me that upon his arrival at the Walrond Ranch he was impressed by the number of men who carried guns in their belts. He immediately undertook to train himself in the use of the revolver and soon became one of the best shots in the country.

The story is told that he received instructions to establish a quarantine station for cattle coming in from Montana. A meeting in protest was immediately called by the cattlemen from both sides of the International Boundary Line at a point near the town of Coutts. Dr. Warnock was asked to attend this meeting, which invitation he accepted. He was a little late in arriving and when he rode up to the building where the meeting was to be held, he was quickly surrounded by a crowd of angry cowmen. When asked to speak he stepped on a box and told them he represented the Dominion Government. When the shouts following this announcement subsided, Dr. Warnock looked up at a weathercock which was whirling around on the top of the building and said, "I can't speak against a noise like that." Without warning he pulled a revolver from his pocket and blew the revolving weathercock to pieces with six perfect shots. This was the beginning of the end of the war with the cattlemen and the commencement of quarantine regulations which, with some variations, exist today.

He stayed with the Walrond Ranching Company, west of Fort MacLeod until 1903, going into private practice in Pincher Creek in that year. He combined his practice with livestock buying and part time service, later on, with the Health of Animals Branch under Dr. J. G. Rutherford who was Veterinary Director General for Canada during the years from 1904 to 1911.

Dr. Warnock assisted with the compulsory dipping regulations for mange and in the inspection of the buffalo herd that was purchased at Ravalli, Montana, in May 1906 by the Canadian Government. Incidentally, these buffalo were to become the nucleus of the herd now at Elk Island National Park, just east of Edmonton.

He resigned from the Health of Animals Branch when he was nominated to the Pincher Creek riding of the Alberta Legislature. He was, however, an insurgent against the Alberta Great Waterways Railroad deal of 1909 when Premier Rutherford was forced to resign and he then refused the provincial nomination. He was elected Federal Member for the MacLeod Constituency in 1911 and repre-

sented this riding until 1917, although he had joined the army in 1915. He did not, of course, accept nomination in the election of 1917.

After joining the army he served with the British Remount Commission, Lachine Remount Department at Montreal in 1915 as Chief Veterinary Officer, being promoted to Commanding Officer in 1917. He was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in June 1918 for services rendered. He was demobilized in February of 1919.

During the early days of his practice, after the North West Territories had been divided into provinces, he, with Inspector (Doctor) Sweetapple drew up the first Veterinary Act for the Province of Alberta. He served on the Examining Board for registrants coming into Alberta and was one of the examining officers when I joined the Association.

I consider Dr. Warnock to have been one of the great men of our profession. He was fortunate to have received an excellent education and to have been a superior public speaker. He had a fine personality and was able to adapt himself to almost any surroundings. There was no doubt of his courage.

After demobilization he moved to Victoria and on April the first, 1919 he became Deputy Minister of Agriculture for the British Columbia Government. This position was held by Dr. Warnock until his retirement in 1933.

His contribution to the people of Alberta as well as to the people of British Columbia and the spirit of encouragement and inspiration the veterinary profession especially, has inherited as a result of his efforts in something we, as men of his profession, may well be proud of.

He passed away only a few weeks after his retirement in Victoria.

#### **Dr. Charles Sweetapple**

Charles H. H. Sweetapple was born near Toronto in the year 1864. In April, 1888, at the age of twenty-three, after graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College he joined the North West Mounted Police in Regina. His promotion came quickly and as Veterinary Staff Sergeant, Regimental Number 2085, he was sent to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. In April, 1891, he received his discharge, but re-engaged in May the following year, serving under Superintendent A. H. Griesbach, Headquarters of "G" Division being at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. On December the first, 1909, he was promoted to the rank of Inspector and was later in command at Fort Saskatchewan.

In 1914 he was transferred to "C" Division to take charge of the Wilkie sub-district. At the time of his retirement, at the age of fifty-eight, in 1922, he was in command at Battleford, Saskatchewan.

Friends of Inspector Sweetapple who served with him in the North West Mounted Police say that he was a very modest man and he considered the men under him to be a "silent force" for individual acts of bravery, success and accomplishments attained were always credited to the Force collectively.

The first time I saw Dr. Sweetapple was in 1893. He drove into our place at Lacombe accompanied by a constable. They were trying to locate a man from the States who was supposed to have passed through our district with a bunch of stolen horses.

In that period of development in the province, few people could come into any community without being noticed. My father remembered a man and his wife who had camped near our place the previous year who had some fifty or sixty head of horses. This man had gone west of Lacombe and had only shown up when he needed provisions.

At Dr. Sweetapple's request I was given permission to accompany him and the constable to help identify this American. After some trouble we found the pair near where Rimbey is now located. The man stated he had not

come into the district by way of Lacombe, but had worked his way north-west of Red Deer, looking for a homestead. He said they had only five horses and not sixty as the police stated. I had previously told Dr. Sweetapple that the man we were looking for had a sorrel saddle horse with a white spot on its hip and a split ear. You can imagine my delight to find the horse picketed in front of the shack. The man finally admitted that he was the one the police were looking for, but any other horses he may have had were dead from swamp fever. The police worked hard on the case for several months but never found the missing horses. After two or three years the man and his wife returned to the States. An interesting part of the story is the fact that at various times, bands of wild horses have been found in certain valleys west of Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House and Nordegg. Shortly before Dr. Sweetapple's death we discussed this case and it was his opinion that the American had put these horses on the Kootenay Plains where it would be almost impossible for the police to find them. In time these horses went wild and it is quite possible their descendants are the ones we hear about to this day.

The wife of this American who brought the horses into our district was the best four horse teamster I ever saw. She was small and delicate in appearance and how a woman of her size could handle four half broken horses attached to a heavy prairie schooner is more than I can understand.

Their wagon was the best equipped that had come over the Calgary and Edmonton Trail that we had seen up to that time. It had a new kind of brake rope beside the driver's seat that could be used when necessary. Anyone who has gone through the experience of applying the brakes of a prairie schooner, loaded with settler's effects, drawn by four half broken bronchos and with four reins to manipulate, will agree that it is some feat for anyone, let alone a small woman. Some of the success of this woman as a four horse teamster could have been attributed to the whip she used. It was a thick black snake that reached from the wagon seat to the ears of the lead team. When she threw out the lash and it ran to the end of the coil, it made a report like a gun shot. She gave Dr. Sweetapple and the constable a demonstration with this whip the first night we visited them. She snapped nails placed on the ground into her hat twenty feet away, seldom missing. I remember the constable saying he hoped he would not have to arrest her — he didn't mind the thought of being shot in comparison to being whipped to death. Many times Dr. Sweetapple stated that this was a remarkable woman.

Dr. Sweetapple was of Quaker descent and English to the core. His speech, mannerisms and tastes were typically

English and these characteristics were so pronounced it was hard to believe that he had not come directly from England. His father lectured for many years on "Diseases of Cattle" at the old Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto and I am sure all students who took lectures from him will agree that he was a kind and sympathetic professor. Doctor and Mrs. Sweetapple senior were most generous hosts on many occasions to students from Alberta. Their interest in tenderfeet, like myself, may have been influenced partly by the fact that their only son, Inspector Sweetapple, was laying the foundations for our present Association in Alberta.

When the Province was formed in 1905, Inspector Sweetapple and Dr. David Warnock, as has been previously mentioned, were responsible for drawing up the first Veterinary Act. Their task was not an easy one for almost in every area there were men who had never attended any veterinary college, but had been treating livestock diseases. These individuals, with the help of some Members of Parliament, tried to have legislation passed that would give them a license to practice in Alberta. It was finally agreed that a few men who had been licensed to practice under the Old Territorial Government would be again permitted to register. All others had to be graduates of recognized veterinary colleges. There was one clause in the Act which allowed some minor operations to be performed by non-registered persons. The whole Act had been held up until this section could be agreed on and finally was inserted as a compromise.

Dr. Sweetapple was elected the first secretary of the Alberta Veterinary Association in 1906 and was also the first examiner for membership in the association. He gave both an oral and written examination and it is said he was a tough examiner. Until a few years ago there were still a few graduates who tried the examination at least twice, but never did get past him.

When I went up for my examination, I found him strict but fair. It was said he was too severe and that he ran the examination along military lines and it may have been so. However, I believe at the time this helped the association and was responsible in part for the morale and status of the veterinarian in this Province.

Immediately upon retirement, from the R.N.W.P., Dr. Sweetapple moved to Olds where he lectured in veterinary science at the School of Agriculture. He also carried on a successful private practice. His death was reported on March 20th, 1943, while he was still residing at Olds.

*To be continued next month*

Dr. R.G. Thomson is responsible for the "Historical Column" currently being featured in the Canadian Veterinary Journal. Readers are invited to send items, papers, suggestions, pictures, comments, etc., to Dr. Thomson, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 4P3.